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COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone)

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SUBJECT Volkspolizei Wachbattalion
"Gross Berlin"

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1. The Headquarters and 1st Co of the VP Wachbattalion "Gross Berlin" (Berlin guard battalion) is on Seckendorffstrasse, Berlin-Pankow. The 2d, 3rd and 4th Cos are in Berlin Johannisthal and the 5th and 6th Cos in Tondenschloss, Berlin-Koepenick. The unit has 700 police. Kommandeur Schneider, (fnu), is CO of battalion and Oberpolizeirat Schnittinger, (fnu) is chief of staff. Oberpolizeirat Alexander (fnu), is chief of the personnel section.
2. Each VP man had either a carbine, model 98 K, or a pistol, models 06 and 38. They received political indoctrination, basic infantry training, and training in firing and guard drill. The battalion personnel wear black-red-gold cockades on their caps.
3. The unit guards all Berlin ministries and public buildings of the German Democratic Republic.

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